

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 06328 311006Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-04 TRSE-00 COME-00 RSC-01 SSO-00

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O R 310940Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9105

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JIDDA 6328

PASS: TREASURY FOR PARSKY

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, BEXP, SA, US

SUBJ: COMMUNICATIONS EXPERT

REF : STATE 236907

1. TRAVEL OF WILK SHOULD BE DELAYED SLIGHTLY BUT OMAR FAQIEH IS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT MISSION AS DESCRIBED REFTEL. WE PRESUME THAT WILK HAS COORDINATED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WITH ADL WHICH IS DUE TO MAKE FULL REPORT TO MINCOMMUNICATIONS ON NOV 16. WE HAVE SUGGESTED, AND FAQIEH HAS INITIALLY AGREED, THAT IT WOULD BE GOOD IDEA FOR WILK TO BE PRESENT AT THAT FORMAL PRESENTATION OF ADL REPORT.

2. FAQIEH HAS AGAIN SUGGESTED THAT AT&T MAY BE ABLE TO HELP HIS MINISTRY IN STAFFING UP FOR NEW PROGRAM, AND WE WOULD LIKE WILK TO EXPLORE DISCRETELY THEIR CAPABILITY TO DO SO BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL. NOTE THAT FAQIEH SPECIFICALLY WARNED THAT ANY COMPANY CHOSEN TO WORK WITH HIS MINISTRY SHOULD NOT RPT NOT USE SERVICES OF ANY SAUDI AGENT NOR SEEK ANY PRIVATE CONNECTION (WE PRESUME THIS INCLUDES MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY) AS A MEANS OF ENTERING THE MARKET. THIS IS UNUSUAL REQUEST AND ONE THAT EMBASSY APPROVES IN SPADES.

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3. FAQIEH SUGGESTED WILK ARRIVE AROUND NOV 7.

4. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH STANFORD RESEARCH TEAM LEADER PETER DUNCAN SUBJECT AROSE OF POSSIBLY AGAIN ACCELERATING PACE OF COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT WITHIN KINGDOM BY USE OF DOMESTIC SATELLITE. HE IS HOEFUL THAT ADL REPORT WILL AT LEAST DEAL WITH SUBJECT AND EMBASSY HOPES WILK WILL BE FULLY CAPABLE OF DISCUSSING CANADIAN EXPERIENCE AND RECENT SALES OF SUCH SATELLITES TO IRAN AND INDONESIA WHERE SIMILAR PROBLEMS TO THOSE IN SAUDI ARABIA EXIST.

5. FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS ON EXPERTS SHOULD NORMALLY BE CLASSIFIED NO HIGHER THAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TO FACILITATE DISCUSSIONS WITH SAG OFFICIALS.
AKINS

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